Case Study

AP Automation/Service Provider





Customer Overview



Name

PSA Security Network

Industry

Systems Integrator Cooperative

Web

www.psasecurity.com

Challenge

- Manual processes to capture large volumes of incoming data from multiple sources was inefficient, labor intensive, subject to errors and costly
- Accuracy of the data was error-prone and data integrity was questionable

Results

Automation of data capture to integrate into a workflow process in a seamless, centralized reliable system resulted in:

- 60% increase in productivity
- Increase in month end revenue through prioritization of invoices
- Confidence in data integrity

As the world's largest electronic security cooperative, PSA Security Network receives a daily influx of invoices and other documents in digital and hard copy format from clients and vendors. The sheer volume and frequency of the manual data entry into "CORE" systems of engagement including their NetSuite ERP was a time consuming and error prone process. After deploying ABBYY FlexiCapture software along with the experienced professional services from solutions integrator, ProConversions Corp., PSA is now reaping bottom line benefits across their organization. ABBYY FlexiCapture for Invoices entirely automates the data capture process, providing a single, flexible, reliable and secure system to streamline PSA's invoice process.

"FlexiCapture for Invoices has transformed the way we deal with information at the front-end of our accounting practice. We have simplified our processes and now have the visibility we wanted to prioritize our workload each day. More importantly, we can respond to our network of over 6,000 security industry professionals with information that is timely and reliable."

— Carol Philp, Controller

Business Situation/Challenges

The accounting department at PSA conducts thousands of purchase transactions between its vendors and security integrators. The task to manually key in 500 + invoices each day was labor intensive and time consuming and the manual process never allowed PSA to efficiently access client historical records.

PSA Company profile

PSA Security Network boosts an impressive membership of the most progressive security integrators throughout North America who are responsible for over \$3.5 billion annually in security, fire and life safety installations.

The company partners with industry leading product and solution providers to offer a variety of distinctive security services, education and training programs to their membership base. As a trusted advisor,

PSA builds relationships with its members through more than 300 branch locations and engages with vendors to design solutions that best meet their customers' needs.

"With ABBYY FlexiCapture and the knowledgeable professional services provided by ProConversions, we now have a virtual file cabinet from which our accounting department can access all relevant information pertaining to a customer's order including fulfillment and billing. With this new level of visibility, we have a complete snapshot of all transactional data that is current and accurate."

Chris Salazar-Mangrum, Senior IT Project Manager, PSA Security Network

"We have seen extended benefits from our automated data capture initiative across our company. From a revenue perspective, the capability to identify and prioritize our invoice processing based on billings that have the highest dollar amounts has had an immediate impact. Secondly, knowing that the data we put in the system at the front of our accounting process is reliable is crucial to our workflow—data integrity through reliable data capture and processing is paramount for PSA.

ABBYY and ProConversions have successfully delivered on this investment for our future."

— Carol Philp, Controller PSA Security Network

About ABBYY

ABBYY is a leading global provider of technologies and solutions that help businesses effectively action information.

North American ABBYY

880 N. McCarthy Blvd. Suite 220 Milpitas, California 95035, USA Tel +1.866.463.7689 Fax +1.408.457.9778 sales@abbyyusa.com

Technical Situation/Challenges

PSA required an automated intelligent capture solution that could import the diverse types of documents being received each day and automatically classify and index them with a high degree of accuracy. The solution needed to ensure that the data being captured off the invoices matched 100% with the purchase order data in NetSuite and at the same time it could be easily integrated to their NetSuite Accounting System. The Integration needed to allow for the flow of data to and from each system and have inherent security features to manage the data's integrity.

The PSA executive team considered the project to be an integral part of the company's corporatewide paperless initiative. An advance capture solution along with an Invoice approval workflow would be deployed across the organization. Due to the complexity of the solution, assistance was required from a recognized systems integrator with expertise in consolidating internal systems. ABBYY's premier business partner, ProConversions Corporation was selected to map PSA's business requirements and design a a customized distributed capture solution built on ABBYY's recognized technology.

"ProConversions consultative approach with key stakeholders at PSA really helped to define our goals and expectations for the project. The detailed project plan included clear milestones and delegated tasks that were completed on time and within budget. The sandbox testing environment, utilized throughout the implementation process, provided our AP team with the confidence we needed to move the ABBYY for Invoices solution to production. ProConversions expertise allowed us to deploy a fully functional AP Automated solution over the course of three months."

Chris Salazar-Mangrum, Senior IT Project Manager, PSA Security Network

Solution

The foundation of the solution proposed by ProConversions was ABBYY's FlexiCapture for Invoices. FlexiCapture allows for the consolidation of all document types (forms, files) from invoices, statements, credit slips, repair bills, service papers and delivery receipts. In the new process, all documents would have the same entry point via PSA's Microsoft Office 365 email account and would be automatically imported into FlexiCapture to classify and capture the key index data. ABBYY's Web client verification module ensures that the invoice data captured matches 100% with the original purchase order residing in NetSuite. In the event of a discrepancy in price, quantity, or delivery, the invoice would be flagged and routed to an exception que, while the processing of the next invoice would continue. Once the invoices were 100% verified, the data and images are exported to NetSuite to automatically create a voucher to pay. Simultaneously the images and data are exported to PSA's Treeno document management system where each new invoice triggers an Invoice Approval Workflow. Once the Invoice is approved in the workflow tool by the approving manager, it's routed back to the AP clerk to pay the invoice and complete the workflow.

Benefits

Within six months of having the automated system in production, PSA has seen significant improvements across the organization. Moving from paper to electronic processing of documents has created efficiencies throughout the entire accounts payable process. Before implementing the OCR capture system, PSA's processing time to receive and index an invoice was 48 Hours. The change from manual data entry to a fully automated system, has allowed the accounts payable team to processes invoices in a fraction of the time it took previously. PSA has realized a substantial increase in productivity and can now process all invoices received each day with no backlog.

These efficiencies have streamlined the accounting team's ability to process an increased number of invoices each day and PSA can now ensure all customer transactions are accurate at the start of the fulfillment process. ABBYY's three-way automated checkpoints are designed to validate that invoice data is accurate, so data integrity is maintained throughout the entire process. There is a renewed confidence in the process and the historical search results are now accurate when looking for specific information associated to an invoice, statement or other business document.

